



NEWS RELEASE

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INS Apprehends 34 Unauthorized Workers in Oxnard *Operation highlights need for employers to check work authorizations*

OXNARD, Calif.—On Thursday, March 8, Special Agents from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) apprehended 34 undocumented workers at Scosche Industries in Oxnard. The INS agents, who were joined by agents from the FBI and the Oxnard Police, were following up on reports of undocumented workers at the facility.

"Enforcement of the immigration laws in the workplace is one of the priorities of the INS' interior enforcement strategy," said J.T. Watson, the Officer in Charge of the INS' Ventura Sub-Office. "There is a clear connection between alien smuggling and unauthorized employment and we have to address causes of illegal immigration, not just the symptoms."

Watson explained that the INS interior enforcement strategy is designed to enhance public safety as well as protect the rights of immigrants who are here legally. He also said that many of the questions employers might have with regard to whether or not potential employees are authorized to work in the United States can be answered through an INS program called SAVE.

SAVE, which stands for Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements, is an employment verification program that lets employers verify the work authorization of their newly hired employees quickly and easily. Employers must register with the INS to participate in the program but, once they do, the INS provides the software, manual, notices, and a computer based tutorial, which provides all the information relating to SAVE policy and procedures.

More information about the INS SAVE program can be found on the INS website:
<http://www.ins.usdoj.gov/graphics/services/save.htm>

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